



Clermont County On The Move

a newsletter for citizens

Commissioners: Mary Walker, Bob Proud, and Scott Croswell

January 2005

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New Municipal Court Dedicated

The new Clermont County Municipal Court, located at 4430 State Route 222 in Batavia, was dedicated during ceremonies on Friday, December 3, 2004.

The \$9 million, 53,000 square foot facility, includes five courtrooms, state-of-the-art electronic security and audio/video systems.



Justice Moyer during the dedication address

"Municipal Courts, such as this one, are cornerstones of the Ohio judicial system," said Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Thomas J. Moyer during the dedication address. "Municipal courts are much more than institutions; they are places for the peaceful resolution of disputes. Of the three million cases filed each year in Ohio courts, 85 percent are heard in municipal courts. Win or lose, everyone who leaves the court has one



universal expectation, that they have participated in a fair process and have had as

good a chance as anyone else to win."

During the ceremonies, plaques were unveiled for the building dedication and a bicentennial plaque that will be placed inside the building along with a time capsule, to be opened in the year 2050.



Connie Bare unveils the bicentennial time capsule plaque



Judge Haddad, Judge Shriver, Chief Justice Moyer, and Judge Herman unveil the building dedication plaque

"We are very proud of this building," said Clermont County Commission President, Mary Walker. "These justices and the citizens of Clermont County deserve it."

Commission Vice President, Bob Proud, added, "This new court is modeled after the one stop approach to make doing business with the court system, much more convenient for our citizens."



Awards Ceremony for Ohio Weights and Measures Officials

The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) in cooperation with the Ohio Weights & Measures Association (OWMA), a non profit organization dedicated to promoting uniformity in weights and measures and equity in the marketplace, presented certificates for successfully completing course #202-Retail Computing Scales of the National Training Program. The course is designed to provide comprehensive technical training in the area of weights & measures enforcement and administration.



During the awards ceremony held at the ODA Fall Training School on October 27, 2004 in Columbus, Tony Brockman, Clermont County Weights & Measures inspector, was recognized for his participation and having met all of the requirements for certification.

Pictured above: Tony Brockman is in the center of the group.

Park District Receives Steam Whistle Grant

By: Chris Clingman, Park District

As part of the Park District's Visitor Center/Museum project at Chilo Lock #34 Park, the Park District has received a grant to fund a steam whistle exhibit. The grant comes from the J. Mack Gamble Fund of the Sons and Daughters of Pioneer Rivermen. The \$13,900 grant will be used on an exhibit that will show how whistles were used on the Ohio River to communicate between steamboats, towboats, and the lock and dams.

The exhibit will feature a large steam whistle that has been donated by Adren and Caroline Pollitt to the Park District. The whistle was used on Lock & Dam #32, until the dam was taken out of service due to the opening of

Meldahl Dam. The dams would communicate with the boats by using a series of blasts on the whistle. At Chilo Lock & Dam #34, air whistles and sirens were used.

The Park District also has received a donation from Elbert and Marjorie Malone, a siren, that was at Chilo Lock & Dam #34. The siren was used to warn boaters that the lock chamber was about to be emptied. Sirens are still used today at Meldahl Dam to warn of the release of water from the lock chamber.



The Park District hopes to have the steam whistle exhibit ready for the visitor center's opening in June, 2005. See you there!



January Commissioner Sessions

Wednesday, Jan. 5 1:00 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 10 11:00 a.m.
BCC reorganization meeting

All regular sessions are held in the third floor session room of the Clermont County Administration Building, 101 East Main Street in Batavia, Ohio. For agenda information, contact the BCC offices at (513) 732-7300.

Christmas Tree Recycling in Clermont County

By: Paul Braasch, OEQ



There are a wide variety of options available to County residents this year when it comes to disposing of your Christmas tree. Recycling, or composting, is one of the most environmentally friendly ways of disposing of your old tree. Chipping and composting results in a beneficial mulch, while at the same time diverts waste from occupying precious landfill space.

Amelia: Curbside pick-up is available on December 30, Jan 3, 7 and 10, 2005. Amelia residents should call 753-4747 to schedule pick-up. Trees *must be cleared* of all decorations.

Batavia: Batavia Village will pick up trees on Jan 3.

Loveland: City residents can bring trees to the Public Works Department, 10980 Loveland-Madeira Rd for disposal, or call 683-0150, ext. 1439 for pick-up. Trees will be accepted from December 27 through Friday, January 7.

Miami Township: Residents can bring Christmas trees cleared of all decorations to Paxton-Ramsey and Miami Meadows for chipping. Trees can be dropped off seven days a week during daylight hours through January 31. Call 248-3728 with questions.

Milford: Curbside pick-up will be available to City residents every Wednesday through the month of January. Trees must be clear of all decorations. Residents do not have to call the Service Department for pick-up.

Owensville: The Clermont County Park District will accept trees at Pattison Park, 2227 U.S. Route 50 from January 3 through January 15. The site will be unmanned. Trees free of decorations should be dropped off near the picnic shelter on the south side of U.S. 50.

Pierce Twp: Township residents can bring trees to the Pierce Town Hall anytime after Christmas. There will be a tree corral open in the parking lot in which residents can dispose of their trees.

Union Twp: Clermont County residents can drop-off trees at *Evans Landscaping*, located at 3700 Roundbottom Road in Newtown. Hours are Mon-Fri, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sat., 9 a.m. to noon. There will be a \$2 charge for Clermont residents.

CTC Leader Retires



Melissa O'Farrell retired from Clermont County government in December, after 30 years of service, most recently as mobility coordinator for Clermont Transportation Connection. Melissa previously worked for the Department of Job and Family Services as a child abuse and neglect investigator, a Children's Services investigator,

and workforce investment specialist.

Melissa says the best part about her position at CTC, has been the ability to organize the department from top to bottom, creating a customer driven service. "I have enjoyed being able to troubleshoot customer issues and being actively involved in a program that is dedicated to serving those in need," said O'Farrell.

While she says she will miss the staff at CTC and so many others she has worked closely with over the years, she is looking forward to getting a little rest and relaxation. She will spend more time with her children (ages 13 and 17) cooking, gardening, and doing all those things I promised to get to "one of these days."

Library Happenings

By: Tammy Craig, Library

National Popcorn Day Celebration

Wednesday, Jan. 19, 7:00 p.m.
Milford-Miami Twp. Library
Children from preschool on up are invited for stories and snacks.



Spongebob Squarepants Splash-a-Bration!

Saturday, Jan. 22, 2:00 p.m.
Owensville Library
Stories, crafts, and games surrounding the popular cartoon character.

Teen Anime Club

Saturday, Jan. 29, 2:00 p.m.
Union Twp. Library
Help review the latest anime titles in a roundtable discussion.

Thanks John!

By: Marsha Stockton, Recorder's Office

Chief Deputy Recorder, John Sims, is leaving us after 16 years of exemplary service to the Recorder and the citizens of Clermont County. We all hope you have a long, happy retirement John.

Roger J. Maham, has been hired as chief deputy of the Recorder's Office. Roger is a 1971 graduate of Wilmington College where he earned a B.A. in Business and Economics. His experience includes over 20 years as a real estate appraiser. Roger serves as the state vice president of the Ohio Association of Real Estate Appraisers. He resides in Williamsburg with his wife Susan. They have three children: Ellie, a teacher in the Forest Hills School District; Andy, a structural engineer with Bechtel; and Nancy, a junior at Georgetown College.

Uecker Leaves County Government for State Representative Post



Clermont County Engineer's Administrator, Joe Uecker, has announced his retirement, as well as his resignation as a Miami Township Trustee effective December 31, 2004. This past November, Joe was elected to the Ohio House of Representatives' 66th District, which encompasses Miami, Union, Batavia, and Goshen Townships, as well as the areas of Milford and Loveland that are in Clermont County.

The administrator for the County Engineer since January of 1993 and a township trustee since 1990, Joe holds a Bachelors degree in Public Administration from Northern Kentucky University and an Associates degree from the University of Cincinnati.

Involved in the local political scene as a member of the County Republican Party, Joe is a member of the Republican Central Committee. Some may recall Joe was a deputy sheriff in Clermont County from 1977 through 1983. "I have worked in the public sector for nearly 30 years, over half here in Clermont County. Of the five public agencies I have worked for, I have never met a harder working bunch of people than those working for the County Engineer. I am really going to miss these folks," Joe said recently.

Have Room for Us?



Noel



Bobby

Clermont Animal Shelter
732-8854

Congratulations!

The Clermont County Sewer District has two operators that have received higher licenses: Douglas J. Martin at the O'Bannon Creek Wastes Water Treatment Plant now has a Class 3 license, and David Pigg of the Lower East Fork Waste Water Treatment Plant now has a Class 2 license.

Welcome New Clermont County Employees

CCSD - Dustin Steger, Wade Hawes
CCSD-WD - Gregory Findlan, Brent Smith
DJFS - Amy Daugherty
DJFS-CPS - Jamie Snider, Monica Brown
DJFS-CSE - Lowell Davis
Facilities Maintenance - Charles E. Engle
OPI - Jeff Pulliam
OTCS - James Taylor

On the Move is a service of the Board of Clermont County Commissioners. For more information about any of the articles included in this publication, contact Kathy Lehr or Bobbi Padgett at **732-7597**.
